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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, May 10, 1984 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended May 5 totaled an estimated 17.6 billion ton-miles, 12.0 percent above the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 18 weeks of 1984 was an estimated 310.5 billion ton-miles, 13.7 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended May 5 totaled 403,677, 10.7 percent above 1983, and 2.5 percent over the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 14.3 percent in the East, 9.1 percent in the South and 9.3 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1983, 14 of the 21 commodity groups showed increases. Coal loadings were up 17,127 cars (17.0 percent), and motor vehicles and equipment posted a gain of 2,957 cars (16.5 percent). Twelve of the 21 groups increased from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended April 28 totaled 50,406 cars, up 9.8 percent from the corresponding week of 1983, and 84,686 trailers and/or containers, 7.1 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 17 weeks of the year was 851,484 cars, 18.8 percent higher than last year, and 1,479,140 trailers and/or containers, up 19.9 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 5/5/84:

	Loadings in Week ended May 5, 1984		Change from Corresponding Week 1983			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	24,075	I	2,262	10.4	I	184	0.8
Other farm products	3,765	I	21	0.6	D	410	10.9
Metallic ores	18,236	D	2,377	11.5	I	636	3.5
Coal	117,731	I	17,127	17.0	I	8,005	6.8
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	11,727	I	1,176	11.1	I	24	0.2
Nonmetallic minerals	11,300	I	970	9.4	D	1,417	12.5
Grain mill products	10,889	D	369	3.3	I	687	6.3
Food and kindred products	11,010	D	876	7.4	I	163	1.5
Primary forest products	13,799	D	1,577	10.3	D	867	6.3
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,317	I	123	1.7	D	597	8.2
Pulp, paper and allied products	14,768	D	324	2.1	D	91	0.6
Chemicals and allied products	26,210	I	2,476	10.4	D	549	2.1
Petroleum products	4,863	I	164	3.5	D	284	5.8
Stone, clay and glass products	11,834	I	1,122	10.5	I	37	0.3
Coke	5,942	I	1,084	22.3	I	97	1.6
Metals and products	11,322	I	3,314	41.4	I	633	5.6
Motor vehicles and equipment	20,857	I	2,957	16.5	I	803	3.9
Waste and scrap materials	9,787	I	1,604	19.6	D	251	2.6
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	7,206	D	1,182	14.1	I	171	2.4
All other carloads	60,813	I	11,358	23.0	I	2,696	4.4
LCL traffic	226	D	28	11.0	D	7	3.1
Total Cars Loaded	403,677	I	39,025	10.7	I	9,663	2.5
Corresponding week of 1983	364,652						

	1984	1983	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (18 weeks)	7,050,097	6,249,169	I 12.8
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
17 weeks ended April 28	292.9	257.3	I 13.8
Week ended May 5	17.6	15.7	I 12.0
18 weeks cumulative	310.5	273.0	I 13.7

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